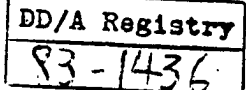


01 JUN 1983



MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
Deputy Director for Operations
Deputy Director for Science and Technology
Deputy Director for Administration
Comptroller
Director of Personnel

FROM:

Executive Director

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SUBJECT: CIA's Information Systems Board

*Additional Infore. Information Systems Board filed
in 70-9*

1. In today's world, information is a resource as valuable as people, dollars, or real estate. This is especially true for the intelligence business -- we are judged largely by our ability to provide accurate and timely information on issues significant to the national security. Other organizations, both in the private and public sectors, are rapidly automating their information management systems and improving their performance as a result. This Agency too is devoting an increasing share of its attention and dollars to automation (ADP) -- the six percent of the CIA budget devoted to ADP in FY 1980 will rise to 11 percent in the FY 1985 budget. Furthermore, the ADP share is projected to keep climbing in this decade before it levels off in the 1990s.

2. In the past, high costs and technical limitations impeded the extent to which the Agency could automate its information services. New technological developments and rapidly declining costs, however, now present us with a wider range of choices for more effectively managing our information. Both the report of the Information Systems Handling Architect (October 1982) and the CIA Strategic Plan (March 1983) address the goals, opportunities and problems facing us in this effort. One major problem has been the growing gap between the users of information systems and the technical specialists who supply and support those systems. As a first step, the relationships that bring the users and providers of information services together must be strengthened and formalized in order to ensure an Agency-wide perspective in information systems management.

3. To assist in this, I am establishing a CIA Information Systems Board, composed of senior officers from your directorates, to:

- improve communications between the users and suppliers of information systems.

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- resolve current information systems problems,
- facilitate the application of new information technologies to Agency activities, and
- identify significant information system issues for Executive Committee consideration.

The users and managers of the Agency's information systems will be equally represented and additional advisory members may be required as the work of the Board progresses. I plan initially to chair the Board and my Information Systems Planning Officer will serve as the Board's Executive Secretary.

4. The Board will be supported by issue-oriented working groups staffed by working-level representatives of the components interested in each issue. To begin, I am establishing six working groups.

Computer Security: The group will analyze CIA's current computer security policies and suggest any changes needed either to improve security or improve information services without sacrificing security.

Requirements and Technology Acquisition: The group will monitor new hardware and software developments, match these to ad hoc Agency requirements for such capabilities, and either acquire small examples of the new technology for user inspection or propose the acquisition of more costly examples. The group will begin with an analysis of the Agency's scientific computing requirements.

Executive Information System: The group will develop the requirements and architecture options for an information and decision support system for the office of the DCI, including memoranda and mail routing, budget and personnel management, and planning.

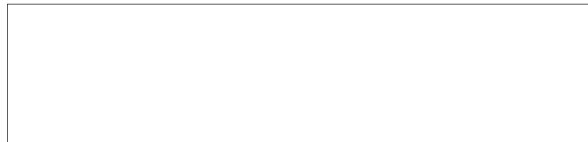
Workstation Environment: The group will tackle the problem of combining word and data processing in one secure workstation that is flexible enough to meet the needs of all but the most esoteric Agency users.

Artificial Intelligence Applications: The group will coordinate ORD's research and development efforts in artificial intelligence with the growing interest of many components in trying AI solutions on specific intelligence problems. The group will further assess the need for permanent AI research and applications centers.

Information Services Planning: Using the CIA Strategic Plan as a starting point, the group will prepare a roadmap of what information services and capabilities, not hardware, will be needed in the next decade to get to the job done.

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5. Please nominate your members of this Board and the designated working groups to me by 7 June.



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Distribution:

- 1 - DCI
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- 1 - DDO
- 1 - DDS&T
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- 1 - Comptroller
- 1 - D/Pers
- 1 - ER
- 1 - PS (Information Handling)
- 1 - PS Chrono

(27 May 1983)

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